

REMARKS

Applicant submits this response to the outstanding Office Action on the above-identified application. Applicant has amended the application, as set forth herein, and respectfully submits that the application, as amended, is in condition for allowance.

Attorney for Applicant would like to thank Examiner Jason Kurr for the courtesies extended in telephone interviews conducted on December 8, 2006 and December 12, 2006.

In the telephone interviews, the references cited in the present Office Action (i.e., U.S. Patent No. 6,993,615 to Falcon, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0085730 to Holland, U.S. Patent No. 6,648,661 to Byrne, et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0180767 to Northway, et al., and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2004/0091123 to Stark, et al.), as well as the references cited in the outstanding Office Action dated November 14, 2006 in Applicant's co-pending application Serial No. 10/316,961 (i.e., U.S. Patent No. 6,163,079 to Miyazaki, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,653,948 to Kunimatsu, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,993,615 to Falcon, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0085730 to Holland, U.S. Patent No. 6,591,085 to Grady, U.S. Patent No. 6,346,917 to Fuchs, et al., and U.S. Patent No. 6,374,177 to Lee, et al.), were reviewed and discussed. It was agreed that none of the references cited in the outstanding Office Actions of both applications, taken alone or in any combination, teach or suggest a docking station which includes an integration device positioned within the docking station, and wherein the docking station is positioned remotely from a car stereo.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant has amended each independent claim to recite a docking station which is positioned remotely from a car stereo and which includes an integration device housed within the docking station. Specifically, independent Claim 1, as amended, now recites a docking station which includes (among other limitations), "an integration device positioned within the base portion for integrating the portable audio device with a car stereo, **wherein the docking station is positioned remotely from a car stereo.**" Independent Claim 15, as amended herein, also recites similar limitations in the context of a method claim. Specifically, independent Claim 15, as amended, recites a method for docking a portable audio device which includes (among other steps) the steps of " providing a docking station having a base portion, a bottom member connected to the base portion, a top member connected to the base portion, and an integration device housed within the base portion" and "**positioning the docking station remotely from a car stereo....**" As such, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claims 1 and 15, and Claims 2-5, 7, 9-14, 16-19, 21, and 23-26 depending therefrom, are patentable over the references cited in the present Office Action and the Office Action of the '961 application, taken alone or in any combination.

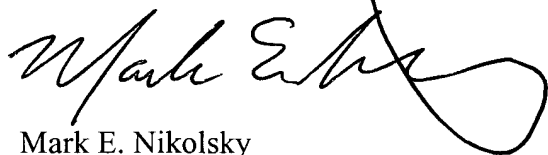
For clarity, the preambles of independent Claims 1 and 15 were also amended to recite "an after-market, portable audio device," and minor amendments were made to provide consistent use of the term "portable audio device." Additionally, dependent Claims 3-5, 11, and 16-17 were amended to provide antecedent basis with Claims 1 and 15 and to address minor matters of form. Dependent Claim 10 was amended to recite a "docking station."

Applicant has also amended Claims 12 and 24 to overcome the rejections raised in the present Office Action with respect to the term "Firewire" appearing in said claims. Additionally, Applicant has amended Claims 13 and 25 to overcome the rejections raised with respect to the term "OEM" appearing in said claims. Applicant has cancelled Claims 6 and 20, and the objections raised with respect to the term "Bluetooth" are now moot. Applicant has also cancelled Claims 8 and 22, and the objections raised with respect to the terms "XM" and "SIRIUS" are now moot. Finally, Applicant has added new dependent Claims 27-29, which further define the locations where the docking station of the present invention can be mounted.

All issues raised in the Office Action are believed to have been addressed. Claims 1, 3-5, 10-13, 15-17, and 24-25 were amended, Claims 6, 8, 20, and 22 were cancelled, and Claims 27-29 were added. Claims 1-5, 7, 9-19, 21, and 23-29 are pending and are in condition for allowance. No new matter is believed to have been added. Re-examination is respectfully requested and favorable action solicited.

Dated: 12/22/06

Respectfully submitted,



Mark E. Nikolsky
Registration No. 48,319
McCarter & English, LLP
Four Gateway Center
100 Mulberry Street
Newark, NJ 07102
Tel: (973) 639-6987
Fax: (973) 297-6624